

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

The Notice to Mariners is published by the National Imagery and Mapping Agency (NIMA), under the authority of Department of Defense Directive 5105.40, to advise mariners of important matters affecting navigational safety, including new hydrographic discoveries, changes in channels and navigational aids, etc. (U.S. Code Title 10, Sec. 442 and Title 44, Sec. 1336 refer). Nothing in the arrangement of information implies endorsement or acceptance by NIMA in matters affecting the status and boundaries of States and territories. The Notice to Mariners presents corrective information affecting charts, NIMA Hydrographic Products Catalog, Coast Pilots, Sailing Directions, Fleet Guides, USCG Light Lists, NIMA List of Lights, Radio Navigational Aids and other products produced by the National Imagery and Mapping Agency, National Ocean Service and U.S. Coast Guard.

Information for the Notice to Mariners is contributed by the following Agencies: National Imagery and Mapping Agency (NIMA) (Department of Defense) for waters outside the territorial limits of the United States; National Ocean Service (NOS) (Department of Commerce), which is charged with the surveys and charting of the coasts and harbors of the United States and its territories; the U.S. Coast Guard (USCG) (Department of Transportation), which is responsible for the safety of life at sea and the establishment and operation of aids to navigation; and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Department of Defense), which is charged with the improvement of rivers and harbors of the United States. In addition, important contributions are made by foreign hydrographic offices and cooperating observers of all nationalities.

For further information concerning NIMA hydrographic products and services, including the Marine Navigation Website, users may contact:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Telephone</u>	<u>DSN</u>	<u>FAX</u>
Marine Navigation Department	301-227-3370	287-3370	301-227-4211
World-Wide Navigational Warning Service	301-227-3147	287-3147	301-227-3731
Marine Navigation's Fleet Liaison Officer	301-227-3120	287-3120	301-227-4211
Marine Navigation Website	301-227-3296	287-3296	301-227-4211
Notice to Mariners: Regions 1 and 2	301-227-3122	287-3122	301-227-3175
Notice to Mariners: Regions 3 thru 9	301-227-3146	287-3146	301-227-3175
Sailing Directions, Fleet Guides	301-227-3183	287-3183	301-227-3174
Navigation Science Publications	301-227-3120	287-3120	301-227-3731
Distribution Issues	301-227-7652	287-7652	301-227-4211

The Marine Navigation Website can be accessed via the NIMA Homepage (www.nima.mil) under the Maps icon or directly at (<http://pollux.nss.nima.mil>). For your convenience NIMA also provides three e-mail addresses. For information affecting Notice to Mariners use NavNotices@nima.mil, for information affecting Sailing Directions and all other navigational publications use SDPUBS@nima.mil, for information concerning the Marine Navigation Website, use webmaster@nima.mil.

Mariners are requested to notify NIMA of discrepancies in charts and publications, using the Marine Information Report and Suggestion Sheet at the back of this Notice to Mariners. This form should also be used to report permanent changes, additions, or deletions from charted or published information. Reports which constitute an immediate hazard to navigation should be sent to the nearest NAVAREA Coordinator via coast radio stations. All reports are greatly appreciated. Marine Information Report and Suggestion sheets received during the past week were submitted by the following observers:

Observer	Ship/Organization
Keith Schultz	SABINE PHILADELPHIA
LT J. Nickerson	USCGC VENTUROUS
QM3 J. Heggem	USCGC VENTUROUS
Kevin Brown	Scripps
Lisa Levin	Scripps
Second Officer Jake Sowers	University of Washington
Navigation Team	USS TORTUGA
R. McCabe, Master	R. N. WEEKS
Second Officer J. Lynett	R. N. WEEKS
Second Officer J. Ramsey	LIBERTY SUN
Second Officer John Humphreys	SAM HOUSTON
A. Camp	MARINE DUVAL

Cover Photo: The R/V MELVILLE (AGOR-14), a 278-foot research vessel, is Navy owned and chartered from the Office of Naval Research to Scripps Institution of Oceanography. Homeported in San Diego, California she was designed to provide world-wide multipurpose oceanographic studies. Deployments for up to a year may involve: the collection and evaluation of physical and biological oceanography; marine geology and geophysics; ocean engineering and marine acoustics; and bathymetric, gravimetric, and magnetometric surveying. Built in 1969 she has a complement of 23 officers and crew with berthing for up to 38 scientific staff. Her current mission is to collect data on ocean circulation and how it interfaces with the atmosphere.